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## Mapping Theory - Contemporary Public Space

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# **Mapping Theory**

- a mapping of the theoretical territory  
related to a contemporary concept of  
**Public Space**

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**Center for Public Space Research**  
**Real Dania**

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a multi-lane highway during what appears to be late afternoon or early morning. The road is filled with cars, creating long, dense lines of traffic that stretch far into the distance. The vehicles are mostly dark-colored, and their taillights and headlights are visible, creating a rhythmic pattern of red and yellow lights. The perspective is from directly above, looking down the length of the road. The text "Context - contemporary urbanity" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font on the right side of the image.

Context -  
contemporary  
urbanity

# Characterised by:

- **Increased mobility**
- **Globalisation**
- **Flux**
- **Discontinuity**
- **Large scale**
- **Extensiveness**
- **Dissolving borders**



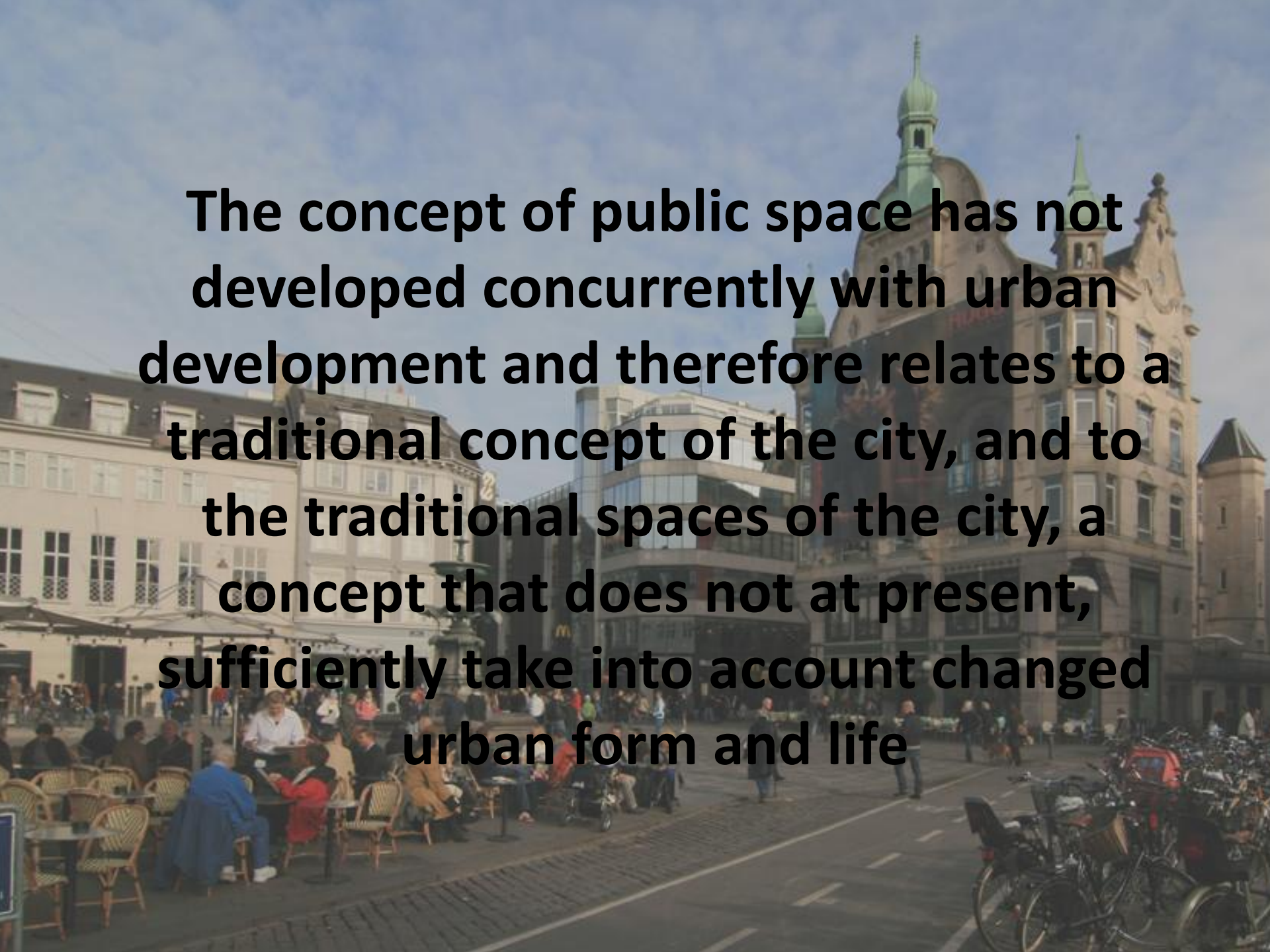




# Urbanity and Public Space



**The concept of public space has not developed concurrently with urban development and therefore relates to a traditional concept of the city, and to the traditional spaces of the city, a concept that does not at present, sufficiently take into account changed urban form and life**















# Public Space and Urbanity

**WHAT KIND OF PUBLIC SPACE DOES THE  
CONTEMPORARY URBAN SITUATION  
GENERATE?**



# Public Space and Urbanity

**HOW DOES THE CONTEMPORARY  
URBAN CONTEXT AFFECT THE PHYSICAL  
FORM, SPATIALITY AND PERCEPTION OF  
PUBLIC SPACE?**

















# Public Space and Urbanity

**HOW DOES THIS CONTEXT AFFECT URBAN  
LIFE?**





















# Public Space and Urbanity

**WHAT IS THE SOCIALITY OF THE  
CONTEMPORARY URBAN SITUATION?**













Additional  
**OFF**  
styles

to  
**%**  
**off**  
price

CLUB

# Public Space and Urbanity

**HOW DOES THIS CONTEXT AFFECT OUR  
REQUIREMENTS TO CONTEMPORARY  
PUBLIC SPACE?**











# The perception and image of Public Space in the contemporary urban is a case of Negativity vs. Potential

Current terminology defines the contemporary urban as:

- Non-place
- Anti-architecture
- The death of the city
- Discontinuity
- Urban sprawl
- SLOAPS

[spaces left over after planning]



# New Types and Potentials





















Image by Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - PAMAP URG

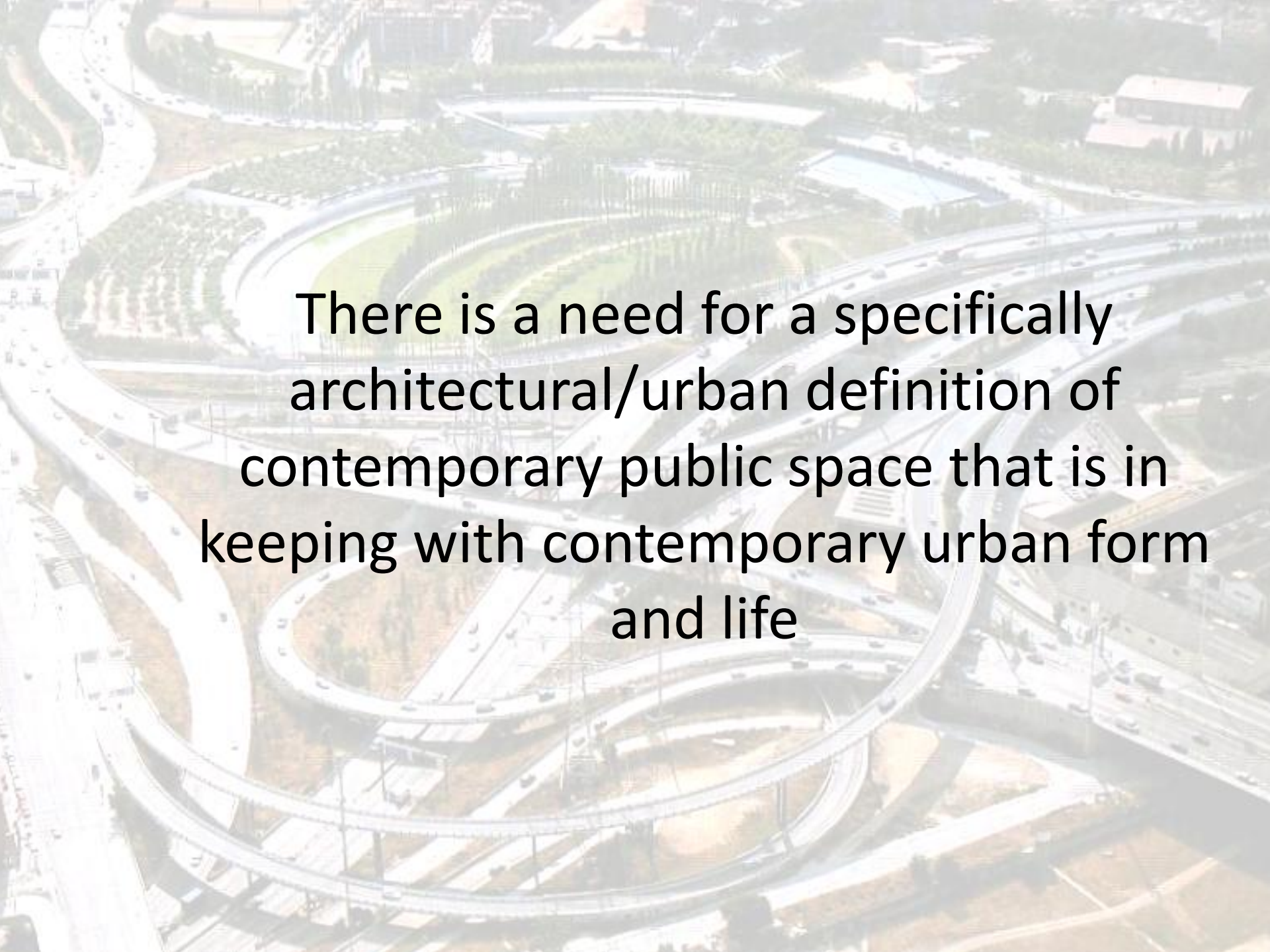
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Google







An aerial photograph of a large, multi-level highway interchange with several overpasses and ramps. In the center of the interchange is a circular green park area with trees and a small building. The surrounding area includes some commercial buildings and parking lots.

There is a need for a specifically  
architectural/urban definition of  
contemporary public space that is in  
keeping with contemporary urban form  
and life








To this end, themes and theories relating to a contemporary concept of public space can be gleaned from outside of the field of architecture and urbanism, and can be used to further analyse, seek connections and to develop specifically architectural/urban theories on public space.

# Outside of the fields of Architecture and Urbanism, spacial and social discourses address:

- Public Domain - Exchange between people and experience of various groups simultaneously (*Hajer & Reijndorp*)
- Public Realm - Contains 'the stranger', social space, but not necessarily physical space, other than a private space (*Lyn Lofland*)
- Public Sphere - Spaces of discussion, particularly those of politics and democracy (*Jürgen Habermas*)





Spaces of mobility and communication  
can be seen as being directly related to  
the concept of public space in a  
contemporary urban perspective and  
require more attention regarding how  
they function as public spaces



Train de départ

N°	Destination	Heure	Statut
1	Paris	10h00	En cours
2	Bruxelles	10h15	En cours
3	Amsterdam	10h30	En cours
4	Rotterdam	10h45	En cours
5	Frankfurt	11h00	En cours
6	Munich	11h15	En cours
7	Berlin	11h30	En cours
8	Varsovie	11h45	En cours
9	Prague	12h00	En cours
10	Bratislava	12h15	En cours
11	Vienna	12h30	En cours
12	Zurich	12h45	En cours
13	Geneva	13h00	En cours
14	Lyon	13h15	En cours
15	Marseille	13h30	En cours
16	Nice	13h45	En cours
17	Paris	14h00	En cours
18	Bruxelles	14h15	En cours
19	Amsterdam	14h30	En cours
20	Rotterdam	14h45	En cours
21	Frankfurt	15h00	En cours
22	Munich	15h15	En cours
23	Berlin	15h30	En cours
24	Varsovie	15h45	En cours
25	Prague	16h00	En cours
26	Bratislava	16h15	En cours
27	Vienna	16h30	En cours
28	Zurich	16h45	En cours
29	Geneva	17h00	En cours
30	Lyon	17h15	En cours
31	Marseille	17h30	En cours
32	Nice	17h45	En cours
33	Paris	18h00	En cours
34	Bruxelles	18h15	En cours
35	Amsterdam	18h30	En cours
36	Rotterdam	18h45	En cours
37	Frankfurt	19h00	En cours
38	Munich	19h15	En cours
39	Berlin	19h30	En cours
40	Varsovie	19h45	En cours
41	Prague	20h00	En cours
42	Bratislava	20h15	En cours
43	Vienna	20h30	En cours
44	Zurich	20h45	En cours
45	Geneva	21h00	En cours
46	Lyon	21h15	En cours
47	Marseille	21h30	En cours
48	Nice	21h45	En cours
49	Paris	22h00	En cours
50	Bruxelles	22h15	En cours
51	Amsterdam	22h30	En cours
52	Rotterdam	22h45	En cours
53	Frankfurt	23h00	En cours
54	Munich	23h15	En cours
55	Berlin	23h30	En cours
56	Varsovie	23h45	En cours
57	Prague	00h00	En cours
58	Bratislava	00h15	En cours
59	Vienna	00h30	En cours
60	Zurich	00h45	En cours
61	Geneva	01h00	En cours
62	Lyon	01h15	En cours
63	Marseille	01h30	En cours
64	Nice	01h45	En cours
65	Paris	02h00	En cours
66	Bruxelles	02h15	En cours
67	Amsterdam	02h30	En cours
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75	Vienna	04h30	En cours
76	Zurich	04h45	En cours
77	Geneva	05h00	En cours
78	Lyon	05h15	En cours
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80	Nice	05h45	En cours
81	Paris	06h00	En cours
82	Bruxelles	06h15	En cours
83	Amsterdam	06h30	En cours
84	Rotterdam	06h45	En cours
85	Frankfurt	07h00	En cours
86	Munich	07h15	En cours
87	Berlin	07h30	En cours
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94	Lyon	09h15	En cours
95	Marseille	09h30	En cours
96	Nice	09h45	En cours
97	Paris	10h00	En cours
98	Bruxelles	10h15	En cours
99	Amsterdam	10h30	En cours
100	Rotterdam	10h45	En cours

Heure d'arrivée

Point rencontre  
Meeting point
















The background of the slide is a collage of several people's faces, mostly of Asian descent, arranged in a grid-like pattern. The faces are slightly faded and overlaid with a white grid. The text is centered over this background.

Addressing the public aspect of public space – i.e., this implicit element of social interaction – opens up for a category of spaces that need not be in planned public space or in physical space at all, but can be found in the interaction itself.



















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Select Sex: ▼

Birthday:

Month: ▼

Day: ▼

Year: ▼

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Sign Up

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I wonder what that new shop will be?

ashleyNP


?

paulr1970

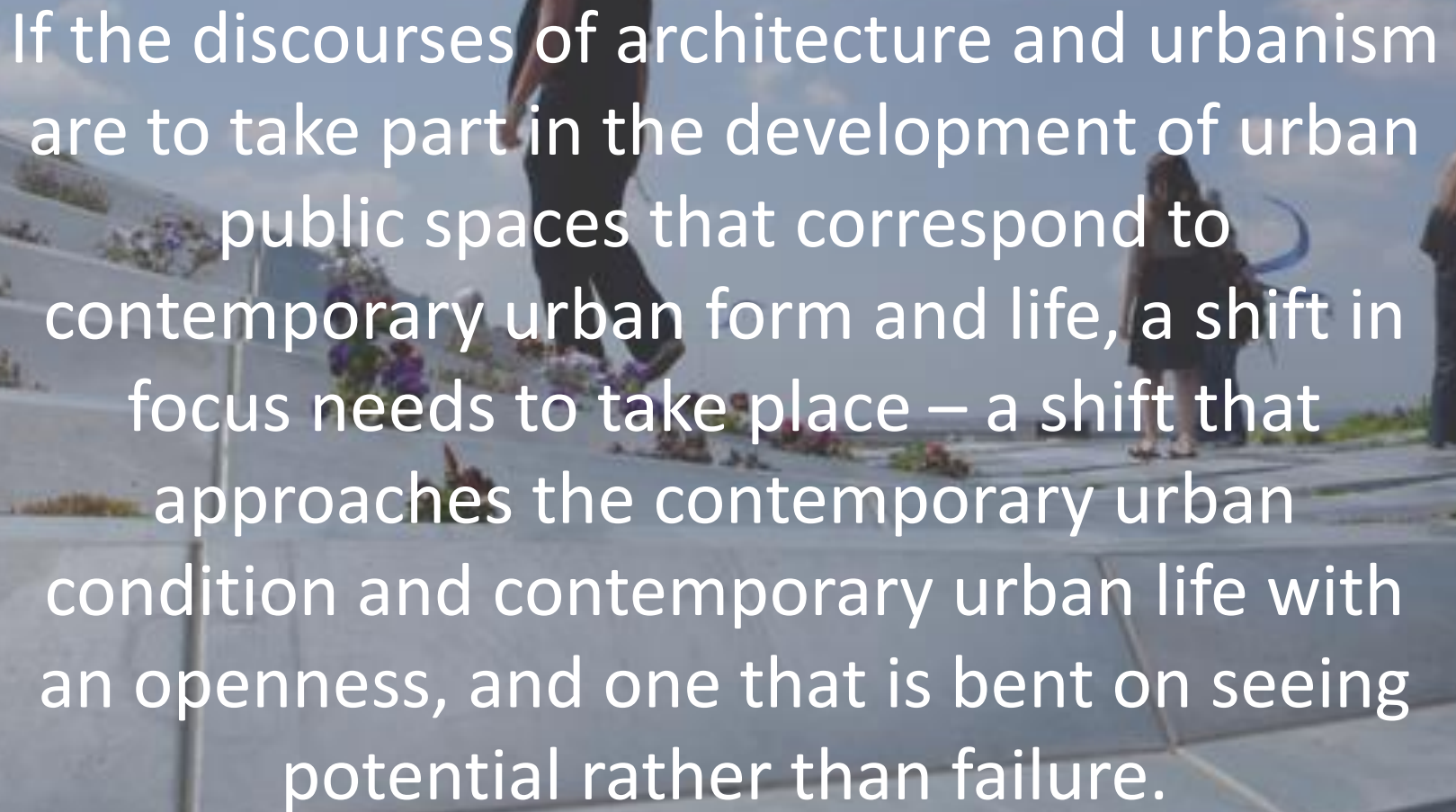
akewt

Fortnum



A photograph of a public space enclosed by a glass structure, situated under a bridge. The structure is made of clear glass panels with a yellow base. The ground is paved with grey bricks. In the background, a street with cars and buildings is visible. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

The concept of public space in the contemporary situation holds a tremendous potential – and one that is not sufficiently accessed, tapped into or utilised at present.

A photograph of a modern architectural structure made of wide, light-colored concrete steps or terraces. A person in dark clothing is walking up the steps in the foreground. In the background, two other people are standing on a higher level of the structure. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

If the discourses of architecture and urbanism are to take part in the development of urban public spaces that correspond to contemporary urban form and life, a shift in focus needs to take place – a shift that approaches the contemporary urban condition and contemporary urban life with an openness, and one that is bent on seeing potential rather than failure.